



Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

2500 Bermuda Ave., San Leandro, CA

Mailing address : 14112 Azores Place, San Leandro, CA 94577

OFFICE : (510) 614-2765

RECTORY: (510) 969-7013

Parish Office hour : 9:30 AM—2:30 PM Monday to Friday

Pastor: FR. JAN RUDZEWICZ

DEACON THOMAS MARTIN

Secretary: LINO POBLETE

Administrative Assistant - EVELYN BONITO

www.olgcsanleandro.com

TRUST IN GOD

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel.

Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to “tempt the LORD” in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord’s enduring protection of God’s chosen lineage on the throne of David.

The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew’s reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ



BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL NAME HIM EMMANUEL, WHICH MEANS “GOD IS WITH US.”

MATTHEW 1:23



FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 22, 2019

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MASSES:

Saturday Vigil : 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30am, 11:00am & 12:30 pm (in Polish)

Weekdays: (Monday - Friday) 9:00 am

First Saturday—8:00 am

Holy Days: 9:00 am & 7:30 pm

Second Sunday: 3:00 pm - El Shaddai

Third Sunday: 2:00 pm - Virgin of Penafrancia

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 4:00 —4:45 pm

First Friday— 8 pm

BAPTISMS AND WEDDING

Call Rectory : (510) 969-7013

ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL

Monday—Saturday—9:30am—7 pm

First Friday— 8pm-9pm—at the Church

9pm-12mn—at the Chapel

PARISH HALL INFORMATION

Call: Lynne Evans - (510) 501-4894

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/ CCD

Sunday morning – All grades after 8:30 Mass



Stewardship
Bulletin Reflection
December 22, 2019
Fourth Sunday
in Advent

**IS 7:10-14, 10; PS 24:1-6;
ROM 1:1-7; MT 1:18-24**

As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do except offer our lives as gift in return?

Like St. Joseph from today's gospel we too can give our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ.

This Thursday, December 24th is already Christmas Eve. Again, we will find ourselves immersed in a special atmosphere filled with family togetherness, gift giving, and heartfelt sharing. In our busyness let's try to remember that Christmas is a time of joyful celebration and peaceful reflection.

As we celebrate God's love shown in Incarnation, let us allow our hearts be touched by His mercy, so we can share it with others, especially with our family members, friends, fellow parishioners and strangers.

Wishing you Christmas and the New Year filled with hope, peace, joy and love.

Fr. Jan Rudzewicz
Fr. Matthew Le-Ming-Tri
Deacon Thomas Martin
Parish Staff

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass - Tuesday, December 24th, at 5:00PM

Midnight Mass – December 24th, at 12:00AM

Christmas Day Masses

Wednesday, **December 25th**, at **8:30am** and **11:00am** (in English)

Polish Mass **12:30pm**



THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS

Sat	Dec 21	5:00 PM Colin Suarez (BD)
Sun	Dec 22	8:30 AM Carmen Reynoso (Conversion) Don Praesto (Intentions) Fatima & Beatriz Moniz (BD) 11:00 AM Cornelio Moral + 12:30 <i>Mass for Parishioners</i>
Mon	Dec 23	
Tue	Dec 24	
Wed	Dec 25	CHRISTMAS DAY 8:30 Natalia Mariano + Dely Webelhardt + 11:00 Jun & Nellie Casanas & Family (Thanksgiving)
Thu	Dec 26	Santa Cruz, Tuason & Ybanez Families (Thanksgiving) Elsie Devine + Albina Lozares +
Fri	Dec 27	Juan Lapenias +
Sat	Dec 28	5:00 PM Inocentes Gregorio + Faustino Gregorio + Nelia Andrada (BD)
Sun	Dec 29	8:30 AM Judith Reyes + 11:00 AM 12:30 <i>Mass for Parishioners</i>

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. John of Kanty; Hanukkah begins
Tuesday:	Vigil of Christmas
Wednesday:	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Thursday:	St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins; Boxing Day (Canada)
Friday:	St. John
Saturday:	The Holy Innocents

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Wednesday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night:	Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn:	Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day:	Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Thursday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Friday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2- 8
Saturday:	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13- 18
Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

BRIGHTEN UP YOUR CHRISTMAS
WITH YOUR GIFTS UP ON OUR GIVING
TREE FOR VICTIMS OF STORM
IN THE PHILIPPINES



DUE TO SEASON'S HOLIDAY, LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION REPORTS WILL BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEKS BULLETIN

The First Christmas Nativity Scene:



St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and founder of the Catholic Church's Franciscan Order, began the Christmas tradition of nativity scenes because he wanted to help people gain a fresh sense of wonder about the miracles that the Bible records from the first Christmas.

Up until Francis set up the first nativity scene in 1223, people celebrated Christmas primarily by going to Mass (a worship service) at church, where priests would tell the Christmas story in a language that most ordinary people didn't speak:

Francis, who was living in the town of Greccio, Italy at the time, got the Pope's permission to proceed with his plans. Then he asked his close friend John Velita to loan him some animals and straw to set up a scene there to represent Jesus Christ's birth in Bethlehem. The nativity scene could help people in the area imagine what it may have been like to be present on the first Christmas long ago, when they came to worship at Christmas Eve Mass in December 1223, Francis said.

The scene, which was set up in a cave just outside Greccio, featured a wax figure of the infant Jesus, costumed people playing the roles of Mary and Joseph, and the live donkey and ox that John had loaned to Francis.

Telling the Christmas Story During the Mass, Francis told the Christmas story from the Bible and then delivered a sermon. He spoke to the people gathered there about the first Christmas and the miraculous impact that placing their faith in Christ, the baby born in a simple manger in Bethlehem, could make in their lives. Francis urged people to reject hatred and embrace love, with God's help.

Then he preached to the people around the nativity of the poor King; and being unable to utter His name for the tenderness of His love, He called Him the Babe of Bethlehem."

Describing a Miracle Happen

Saint Bonaventure also reported in his book that people saved the hay from the nativity presentation afterward, and when cattle later ate the hay, it: "miraculously cured all diseases of cattle, and many other pestilences;

People also added more figures to their nativity scenes than Francis was able to feature in his original, live presentation. In addition to the baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, a donkey, and an ox, later nativity scenes featured angels, shepherds, sheep, camels, and the three kings who traveled to present gifts to the infant Jesus and his parents.



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FROM STAFFS, MINISTRIES AND VOLUNTEERS OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

**SAINT STEPHEN (first century)
December 26**

"A man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit" (Acts 6:5): thus Luke introduces Stephen, first of seven deacons chosen by the community for its ministry of charity, first to lay down his life in witness to Christ. As the church's first martyr, Stephen's life and death mirror the preaching and passion of Jesus, "the faithful witness" (Greek, martyr) (Revelation 1:5). Like Jesus, Stephen works "great signs and wonders among the people" (Acts 6:8). Like Jesus, when falsely accused, Stephen's face radiates angelic serenity (Acts 6:15), though his tongue, like Jesus', is a two-edged sword. As the dying Jesus forgave his executioners, even making excuses for them, then commended his spirit into his Father's hands (Luke 23:34, 46), so Stephen intercedes for his murderers and begs Jesus to receive his spirit (Acts 7:60, 59). How fruitful both passions! The penitent thief inherits Paradise; Saul, who consented to Stephen's killing, is transformed into the fearless preacher Paul. Thus Stephen challenges us to bear witness not in words only, but by Christ-like forgiveness toward all.



PLEASE HELP KEEPING OUR CHURCH CLEAN INSIDE AND OUT

Be a part of greater involvement in the renewal of parish and family life
Be a **KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS**.
JOIN US !
Call the Parish Office
(510) 614-2765



Welcome New Parishioners !

If you are not currently registered, please take a moment to fill this out and return it to the parish office, or you may drop it in the collection basket.



Name _____
Address _____
____ Updating Parish Information

Phone _____
City _____ ZIP Code _____
____ Send Sunday Envelopes

____ New Parishioner
____ New Address
____ Put on mailing list

OLGC THROUGH THE YEARS

